

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 DAMASC 04615 151104Z

13
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 /070 W
----- 020312

R 151005Z JUL 76
FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8600
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAMASCUS 4615

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, SY, UR
SUBJECT: FOREIGN MINISTER KHADDAM'S VISIT TO MOSCOW

1. FOREIGN MINISTRY DIRECTOR OF WESTERN EUROPEAN AFFAIRS
TOLD EMBOFF JULY 15 THAT KHADDAM'S JULY 6-7 VISIT TO MOSCOW
HAD BEEN PART OF BAATH PARTY EFFORT TO EXPLAIN SYRIAN POLICY
TOWARD LEBANON TO FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS. KHADDAM, HOWEVER,
HAD BEEN UNSUCCESSFUL IN HIS ATTEMPT TO CONVINCE SOVIETS OF
NECESSITY FOR SYRIAN MILITARY INTERVENTION IN LEBANON.
GROMYKO, OFFICIAL SAID, HAD TOLD KHADDAM HE APPRECIATED
SYRIAN POLITICAL OBJECTIVES BUT NOT ITS MILITARY INTERVENTION.
"QUO VADIS" GROMYKO HAD ASKED KHADDAM AND HAD WARNED OF THE
DIFFICULTIES INVOLVED IN STOPPING A CART HALF WAY DOWN A
STEEP MOUNTAIN.

2. ASKED WHAT SOVIET GOVERNMENT HAD ADVISED SYRIANS,
OFFICIALS SAID SOVIETS WISHED TO SEE AN END TO FULL-
FLEDGED CONFRONTATION BETWEEN SYRIA AND PALESTINIANS,
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 DAMASC 04615 151104Z

MORE SYRIAN PRESSURE ON CHRISTIAN ELEMENTS TO HALT

FIGHTING AND RESUME POLITICAL DIALOG, AND SYRIAN MILITARY WITHDRAWALS. OFFICIAL COULD SHED NO LIGHT, HOWEVER, ON WHAT MEASURES SOVIET UNION MIGHT BE TAKING TO PRESSURE SARG TOWARD THIS POSITION.

3. ON BROADER SUBJECT OF BAATH PARTY INFORMATION CAMPAIGN, FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL CRITICIZED REGIME FOR USING "INEXPERIENCED" PARTY MEMBERS RATHER THAN "QUALIFIED PROFESSIONALS" TO EXPLAIN SYRIA'S POLICIES ABROAD. NC COMMAND MEMBER SAYYAGH'S PRESENTATION IN PARIS HAD BEEN INEFFECTIVE, OFFICIAL SAID. HE THEN WENT ON TO CIRITICIZE REGIME'S INTERNAL INFORMATION EFFORTS SAYING SARG HAS BEEN LARGELY UNSUCCESSFUL IN EXPLAINING ITS POLICY TOWARD ELBANON TO ITS OWN PEOPLE. THIS WAS HURTING ASAD, HE ADDED.
MURPHY

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, INTERVENTION, MINISTERIAL VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976DAMASC04615
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760272-1174
From: DAMASCUS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760756/aaaabxgj.tel
Line Count: 77
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 APR 2004 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <17 AUG 2004 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FOREIGN MINISTER KHADDAM'S VISIT TO MOSCOW
TAGS: PFOR, OVIP, SY, UR, LE, (KHADDAM, ABD AL-HALIM)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006